



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
JACKSON DISTRICT OFFICE



DAN WYANT
DIRECTOR

May 6, 2014

Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy)

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Dairy

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Dear Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy):

SUBJECT: CAFO Reconnaissance Inspection
Certificate of Coverage No. MIG010060
Designated Name Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy) Dairy - CAFO

On April 21, 2014, staff of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Resources Division (WRD), conducted a CAFO Reconnaissance Inspection at Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy) Dairy - CAFO, located at Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy). The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the facility's compliance with Part 31, Water Resources Protection, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA), and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Certificate of Coverage No. MIG010060 issued on July 13, 2011.

You and Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy) participated in the inspection which included an interview, records review, and site inspection. The following items were identified and/or discussed during the inspection:

1. At the time of the inspection, a small number of large calves were being held in a partially covered area located west of the south freestall barn. Most of the area exposed to precipitation was on concrete floors that sloped east toward the barn and lagoon #3; however, a small part of the uncovered area was not on concrete, and appeared to slope west, with runoff not contained. All contaminated production area runoff must to be contained. Please submit to this office by June 20, 2014, a plan to contain all contaminated production area runoff from this area.
2. The annual report for this facility was submitted on time and has been reviewed by the Department. After review, no compliance issues were noted with the report. Our review indicated that all of the required information was submitted, and that manure was applied at agronomic rates on the select fields that were reviewed for compliance.
3. We briefly reviewed maintenance inspection records, including field application and storage structure records. You asked about using different inspection record forms than those provided by the Department. As long as all the required information is included, any form can be used for inspections records. You informed me that the facility has been recording storage structure inspections every two weeks, though storage structures are visually checked daily. Per the general permit, these structures are to be inspected at least weekly, and results of the inspections shall be kept with the CNMP for five years. Please begin to conduct and record these inspections at least weekly. Other inspection records appeared to be adequate.

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4. The data submitted for the new fields added to the facility's land base have been placed on public notice. The public notice period for these fields ends on May 13, 2014. These fields may not be used for the application of CAFO waste prior to this date.
5. At the time of the inspection, two animal burrows were noted between lagoon #2 and lagoon #3. Please be sure these holes are filled in, and be sure to fill any new holes immediately as they are discovered. Any dike damage found and corrective actions taken should be recorded in the weekly storage structure inspection records.
6. This office received photographs from a local resident concerned that Lagoon #3 was leaking. The images showed ponded water directly south of the lagoon. You indicated that you had NRCS personnel out to the facility the week prior to this inspection to check the integrity of the lagoon. You stated that soil sampling was conducted and NRCS personnel concluded the lagoon was not leaking. Please send confirmation of this NRCS visit and the results of their findings to this office by June 20, 2014. You informed me that the elevation of the area where the water had accumulated was six feet below the elevation of the bottom of the lagoon. When I visited the area during the inspection, there appeared to be no water leaching from the berm of the lagoon down to the area of ponding, nor was there evidence of such leaching. This area appeared to be a low spot for the surrounding field. The lagoon showed no signs of leaking.

Thank you for your cooperation in these matters. Should you require further information, please contact me at 517-780-7917; kennedym@michigan.gov; or DEQ, WRD, Jackson District Office, 301 East Louis Glick Highway, Jackson, Michigan 49201-1556.

Sincerely,

Michael Kennedy
Environmental Quality Analyst
Water Resources Division

cc: Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy), Countrywide Environmental (via e-mail)
Mr. Josh Appleby, MDARD (via e-mail)
File: Ex. 6 (Personal Privacy) Dairy – CAFO, MIG010060, Correspondence, Hillsdale County